GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:291
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2000
NATIONAL WATERSHED POLICY
ANANTRAO GUDHE

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to link National Watershed policy to the technology missions of pulses, oilseed and cotton;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of implementation of the proposal; and

(d) the action plan finalised for the next five years to evolve and implement an integrated natural resource management strategy addressing issues like soil, water and country`s bio-diversity and their use in a sustainable manner?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.
STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.291 TO BE ANSWERED ON TH 15TH MARCH, 2000 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a) to (c) There is no National Watershed Policy. However, the Watershed Approach is being adopted for the development of rainfed areas. Oilseeds, pulses and cotton are generally cultivated in the dryland and rainfed conditions.

(d) The Watershed Approach aims at achieving the twin objectives of sustainable production of bio-mass through integrated management of natural endowments like land, water, plant, animal and human resources and restoration of ecological balance.

The major Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented by variousMinistries on watershed basis for development of rainfed areas, drought prone areas, wastelands and reclamation of problem and degraded forest area are as follows:

A. Ministry of Agriculture

1. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA)

2. Watershed Development in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDSCA)

B. Ministry of Rural Development

3. Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)

4. Desert Development Programme (DDP)

5. Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) 6. Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)

C. Ministry of Environment & Forests

7 Integrated Afforestation and Eco Development Project.